

# MONROE CITY DEMOCRAT

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## WAGES TO BE REDUCED

### Missouri Senator of Opinion Cut is Inevitable

Senator Reed of Missouri in a statement issued for the press, takes issue with Samuel Gomper, president of the American Federation of Labor, who in an address at the labor conference at Laredo, Texas declared that his organization would fight to maintain the advantages gained in wages and hours during the war. The Senator insists that wages are bound to come down. He says:

"The purchasing price of the dollar throughout the world has greatly depreciated. This is due chiefly to the enormous inflation of the world's circulating medium. Accordingly, there has been an apparent increase in values all along the line, but this increase is more apparent than real, because while there was more money paid, it actually was not as valuable, dollar for dollar, as it was before the war began. It must be apparent to every thoughtful man that a return to normal currency conditions will mean a contraction in prices. This, of course, will affect the price paid for labor, in common with prices paid for other commodities.

"One economic fact that appears to be overlooked is that enormously high wages do not necessarily mean that conditions of the laborer will thereby be improved. Wages, after all, are measured by what they will buy. As everything has to be produced principally by labor if labor is paid enormously high wages the price of everything is enormously increased, and the laborer finds himself in the end but little better off than he would have been under normal condition. The fact is that the prices of all kinds are relative, and the thing labor ought to ask for is fair treatment, that is that labor shall have fair division. Labor has a right to ask this, and every other element of the community has the same right. In fact speaking broadly, and eliminating the small percentage of idlers all persons in the United States are engaged in useful occupations; they are laborers. Each has a right to expect a fair opportunity to gain a livelihood.

"In the readjustment necessary in passing from war to a peace basis all classes should endeavor to do their part in a patriotic way. No particular class should undertake to gain an advantage from the war. This has not been a war of any class. It has been a war of the American people. The victory is the victory of the American people, and no particular class of our people. In getting back to a peace basis there should be no agitation, no attempt to stir up strife, no effort to gain advantage. We should exercise as high a patriotism in demobilizing for business of peace, as we did in mobilizing for business of war."

### Rebekahs Elect

At the regular meeting of Monroe City Rebekah's last Tuesday night the following officers were elected. Mrs. J. A. Clawson, N. G. Mrs. J. O. Wade, Vice-Grand Mrs. M. B. Garner, Rec. Sec. Miss Daisy Streat, Fin. Sec. Mrs. J. S. Starrett, Trustee 3 year term. Installation of the above, together with appointive officers, will take place January 5, 1919.

## Hog Prices to Continue

The Food Administration announces that after consultation with the Sub Committee of the Agricultural Advisory Board and the Special Swine Producers representatives, and with the Packers, it has been arranged that the November price basis for hogs shall continue through December, the Missouri Division of the Food Administration announces.

It is highly desirable that the lighter weight hogs be held back for the next thirty days. If withheld at this time the possibility of breaking down present price levels because of excessive receipts of the lighter hogs will be avoided.

All available hog products that can be spared will be required for foreign shipment in December and January and thereafter.

## AS TO FEEDING HUNS

### Problem is One of Relaxing the Blockade

Will the people of this country be called upon to make sacrifices, to deny themselves food, that Germany may be fed? This question has been asked frequently of the Missouri Division of the Food Administration.

Just before he sailed for Europe Mr. Hoover declared that according to plans already made, Germany will be fed by economic measures which only contemplate the raising of a few embargo and shipping barriers. Our great task is to feed the liberated peoples of Europe, he said, particularly the fringe of starvation recently or presently to be released by the retreating German armies.

"There is a great problem in the situation of the enemy people, about twenty million," he said. "This problem is not one of going to their relief. It is a problem of relaxing the watertight blockade, which continues through the armistice, sufficiently so that they may secure for themselves the bare necessities that will give stable government. Unless anarchy can be put down and stability of government can be obtained in these enemy states there will be nobody to make peace with and nobody to pay the bill to France and Belgium for the fearful destruction that has been done.

"I would certainly approach this problem with mixed feelings, having been long a witness to the robbery of food from women and children, and the destruction of millions of tons of food at sea and to the misery under which millions amongst the big and little Allies have suffered under the German yoke. Justice requires that a government be established able to make amends for wrongs done, and it cannot be accomplished through the spread of anarchy. Famine is the mother of anarchy.

"I am going to Europe to discuss the further food measures that must be organized as a result of the cessation of hostilities. The food problem in Europe today is one of extreme complexity. Of their 420 million, practically only three areas—South Russia, Hungary and Denmark—comprising about forty million, have sufficient food supplies to last until next harvest without imports. Some must have immediate relief."

O. F. Woodson, the Stoutsville merchant, transacted business in Monroe City Monday of this week. He says there is very little sickness there now and no influenza at all.

## IT SURE READS GOOD!

### That "Ocean to Ocean" Highway Still a Possibility

Monroe City is represented in a map folder just issued by the Pike Peak Ocean to Ocean Highway Association as a part of its campaign to advertise the advantages of the "central scenic transcontinental route" which passes thru this city. The folder is one of a series of three which contain detailed reports as to road conditions along this highway. One folder covers the eastern division of the Highway from New York City and Philadelphia to Indianapolis and is entitled "Connecting the Great Workshops;" the second, covering the central section division from Indianapolis to Colorado Springs is entitled "Thru the Nation's Bread Basket;" and the third, covering the mountain division from Colorado Springs to San Francisco is captioned: "thru America's Scenic Wonderland."

Each folder contains a map of the route of the Pike Peaks Ocean to Ocean Highway in its course from the Atlantic to the Pacific coast. The map shows that this is the direct central route across the continent and emphasizes geographical reasons why this highway is entitled to be the "military-commercial main-line across the United States."

Detailed reports as to the various sections of the highway are given, the data including information as to mileage between important points, kind of road, average conditions, usual running time from place to place, and points of more-than-ordinary scenic, industrial or historic interest. The information is calculated to give the prospective traveler, in condensed form, a fairly accurate idea of the road conditions as he will find them under normal circumstances.

The data is valuable not only to the tourist but to the truck transport driver as well. These folders have been published for free distribution and copies may be obtained from the local Chamber of Commerce, or from the national headquarters of the Pike Peak Ocean to Ocean Highway at Colorado Springs, Colo.

### Missouri Products

Missouri products won 111 prizes, including three sweepstakes and one special, at the International Soil Products Exposition held in Kansas City in October. Ten states, two governments, and five thousand farmers were represented. Farmers of the state made their best showing in corn, apples and sweet potatoes, winning most of the prizes awarded. In corn, 10 of the 23 prizes awarded went to Missouri; in apples, 34 of the 41; and in sweet potatoes, 14 of the 16 prizes were awarded to Missourians. Sweepstakes prizes in the latter two classes were captured.

In collective exhibits, Missouri was awarded third place, but the state's display of fruits ranked first over all other states or provinces. The exhibit by the Missouri College of Agriculture received first place, while exhibits made by farmers not connected with any institution brought second, third and fifth awards to Missouri. In the boys and girls club work, Missouri stood first in canning and second in sewing.

Read the advertising in the Democrat this week.

## Be Conservative

The war is over and people must learn to get back to normal business methods. The banks all over the country, have been hit hard in helping to finance the war. Many of them are over loaned at this time and speculative transactions, that require loans from banks, should be avoided. Merchants must learn to not over buy and borrowers must give prompt attention to the bank loans. The inclination to over-check bank balances, on the part of many, should be discontinued. Banks can do only the business their customers permit them to do and it will be seen, readily, we think, that care and conservation, all along the line, are very important factors in keeping the business of the country free from financial "flu."

## TO EXTRADITE KAISER

### Action to be Take When President Reaches Europe

The British War Cabinet and the French and Italian representatives in London are in agreement as to the proposed punishment of William Hohenzollern, the former German Emperor, but have decided to take no action until President Wilson arrives in Europe.

The Allies are not willing to allow a technicality to prevent bringing William Hohenzollern to trial. If Holland refuses his extradition without the consent of Germany, pressure will be brought to secure consent.

A demand for the surrender of William Hohenzollern will be submitted the Netherlands Government in the name of all the Allied Cabinets. The views of France and Italy have been fully communicated to the British Government, and President Wilson has made suggestions relative to the procedure in the case.

Authority is claimed by the press for the statement that although there some little differences as to points of law among Allied jurists, the conference revealed unanimity relative to the bringing of the former German Emperor to answer for his crimes.

The opinion is held that Holland will not be disposed to put obstacles in the way. She will not be asked to deliver Herr Hohenzollern under the ordinary extradition laws, but his status will be considered analogous to that of a pirate or slave trader, who is not regarded as entitled to sanctuary in any country.

The German Government is still undecided as to how deal with the former Emperor and the Hohenzollerns.

The guilt of starting the struggle lies with both Germany and Austrian militarism. The Government is now investigating the pre-war methods of the Foreign Office, particularly regarding the handling of the secret funds. The result will be made public as soon as given out.

French citizens are lodging complaints regarding crimes committed by the German armies under William Hohenzollern, the former Emperor. Several persons who lost relatives in the bombardment of Paris by the German long-range guns have filed their complaints.

Restrictions have been withdrawn on candy sales and you may now buy in any amount. As the price per pound touches the dollar mark we could see no reason for restrictions in the first place.

## GIFTS FOR CHRISTMAS

### Should be Appropriate and Carefully Selected

Christmas comes but once a year and when it comes it often brings—no, not good cheer, as the jingle would have us believe, but disillusionment and disappointment. At least this is the lot of those unfortunate individuals who are the recipients of hastily purchased and inappropriately selected presents. Not that we mean to take a gloomy view of this festive holiday, but it does seem a pity that so many useless gifts are presented each year.

Why does the Christmas shopper in her journeyings from counter to counter seem to lose all her common sense of balance, to say goodbye to all the common sense, tact and judgment of which she is usually possessed? Why does she commit the folly that amounts almost to a crime, of bestowing gifts that don't fit the recipients' tastes and never would by the wildest stretch of imagination?

And so it goes. So many women in doing their Christmas shopping select gifts that appeal to their own tastes without one thought as to how the article in question will strike the fancy of the one who receives it. Though this may be an eminently satisfactory method for those who give, it is not quite so delightful for those who receive.

Make a list of the persons for whom presents are to be purchased and determine the character of each present you want to give each. This will save time and exhaustion. For instance, your brother may be fond of reading, in which case put "books" down after his name. Books by the way, are almost always a good selection for a man. For sister there are any number of pretty things for her dressing table, for her own personal apparel, for her bedroom or her desk. A dainty collar trimmed with a bit of real lace, a pair of gloves or a filmy scarf—any one of these attractive additions to her wardrobe will be welcomed by the average girl. A handbag is almost always an acceptable gift, and those seen in several of the shops made partly of black silk and partly of a Paisley shawl are new and fetching. Some of the cretonne and brocade desk sets are delightful, but before investing in this sort of a gift it is wise to find out whether the woman for whom it is intended cares for those "decorative art" objects, as the brocade covered articles are called.

The soldiers will soon be coming home by companies, battalions, regiments, brigades and divisions. They will take their places in the business world and will identify themselves with the better ideas of life. They will be in favor of law and order because they have learned what law and order mean. Be sure of one thing, the returned soldiers will not stand for much nonsense along the lines of red-flagism. The men who undertake any demonstrations that smack of anarchy will start something. The returned soldiers believe the whole world revolves around Old Glory and they are right. No flag unfriendly to the Stars and Stripes can be flung to the breeze in this country.

W. S. Woodson and wife Sundayed in Quincy.